

2

(6)

Yi 2
7396
F 2

On the proximate Cause of Disease.

on Debility - 10.1

on predispositions
native & acquired. 8

the object of

I have said Pathology is the history of
the causes, Seats & Signs of Diseases; The causes
The causes I said were remote predisposing,

a note

(not) They award with original depravity and
natural sin. Some men are predisposed
to one vice only, - others to more than
one - answering to the predispositions

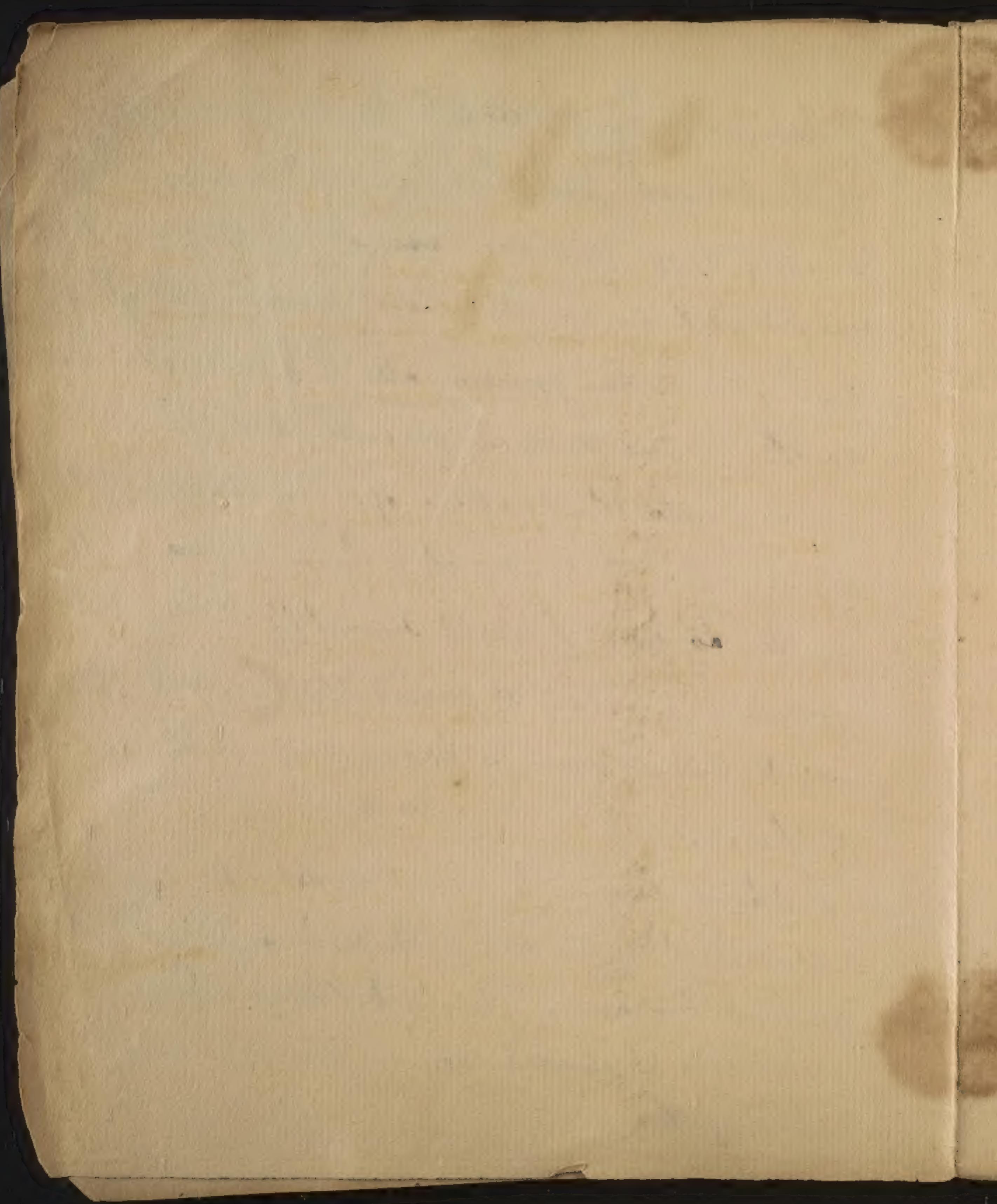
to disease

= exciting & proximate. I shall begin
with the proximate, inasmuch as it
the mind always proceeds directly to it
~~the external cause of the disease in its~~
inquiries into the nature ^{of} of a disease
in order to cure it. To render this subject
intelligible to you I shall deliver a number
of propositions, and endeavor to demonstrate
the truth of
each of them.

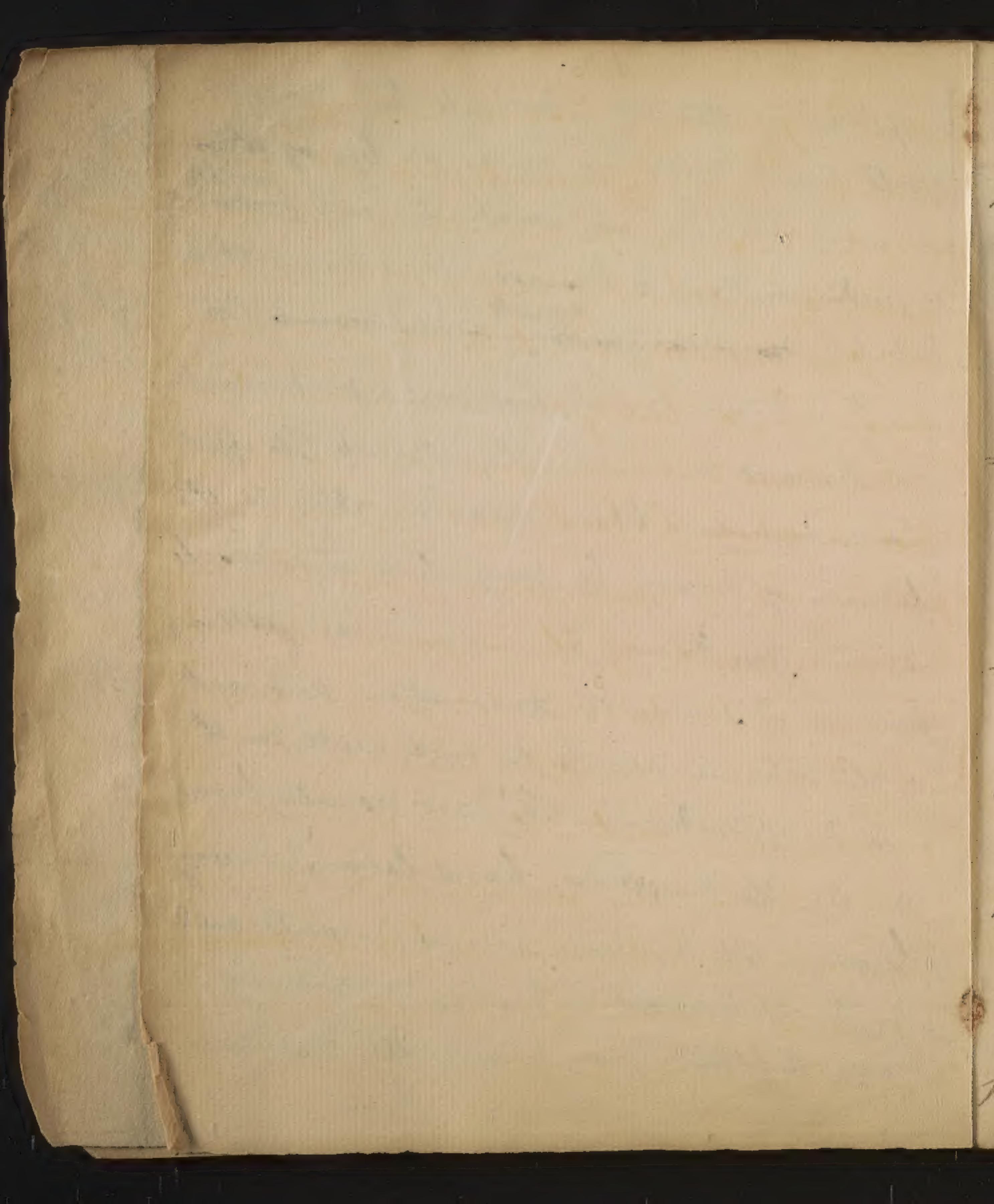
2. 1

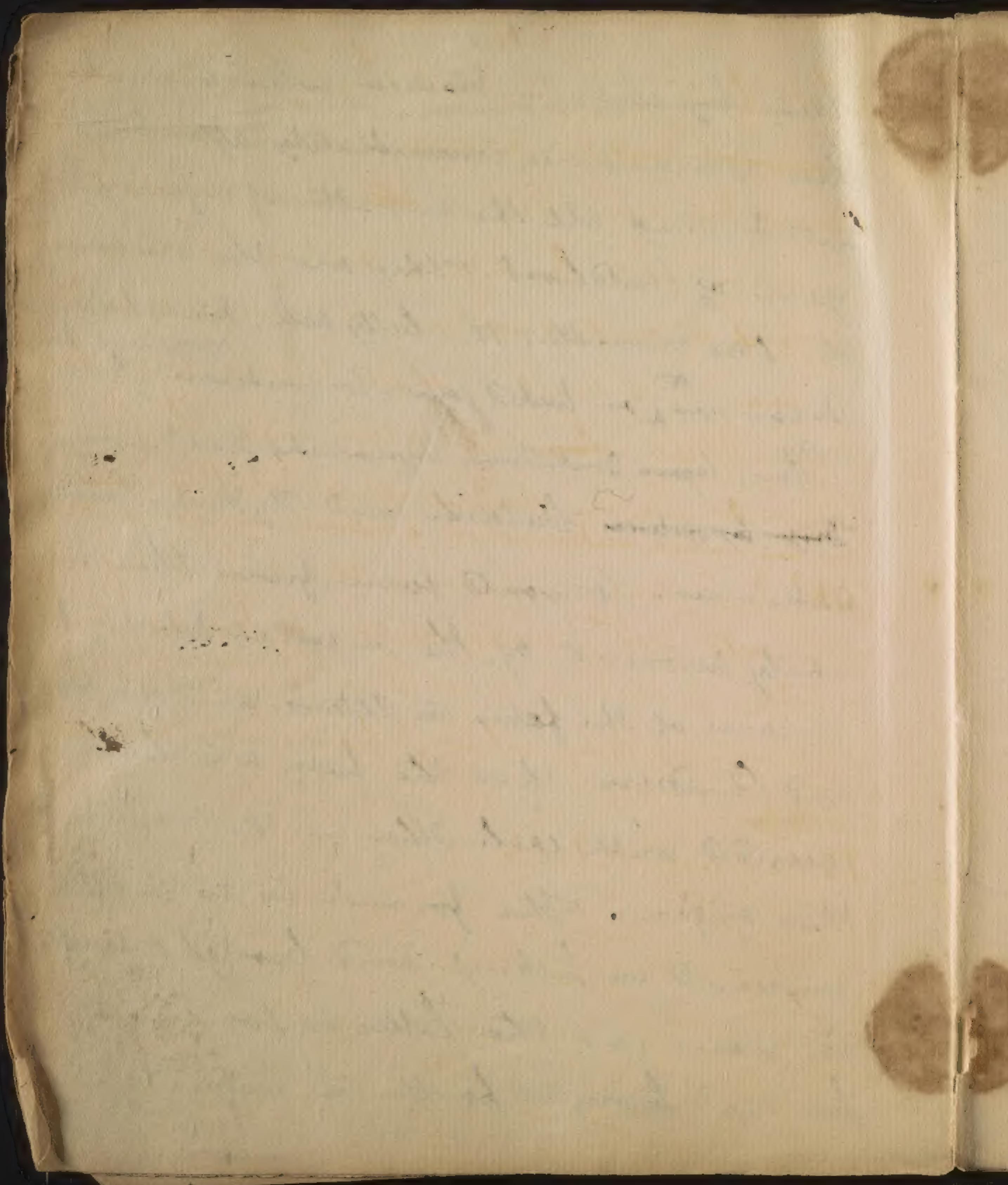
I have said the Objets of Pathology is the history
of the causes, ^{effects} facts, and signs of diseases. These
causes I have said are remote, predisposing,
occasional, or exciting and proximate. I shall
begin with the proximate, inasmuch as
as the mind proceeds directly to it in its in-
quiry into the nature of a disease in order
to cure it. To render this subject ~~as~~ intellig-
ible to you I shall simplify it by deline-
ating a number of propositions, and after-
wards endeavour to demonstrate the truth
of them.

I shall begin by remarking
I that debility is the predisposing cause of all
general diseases. This debility is native &
acquired. I shall make a few remarks upon
each of them.



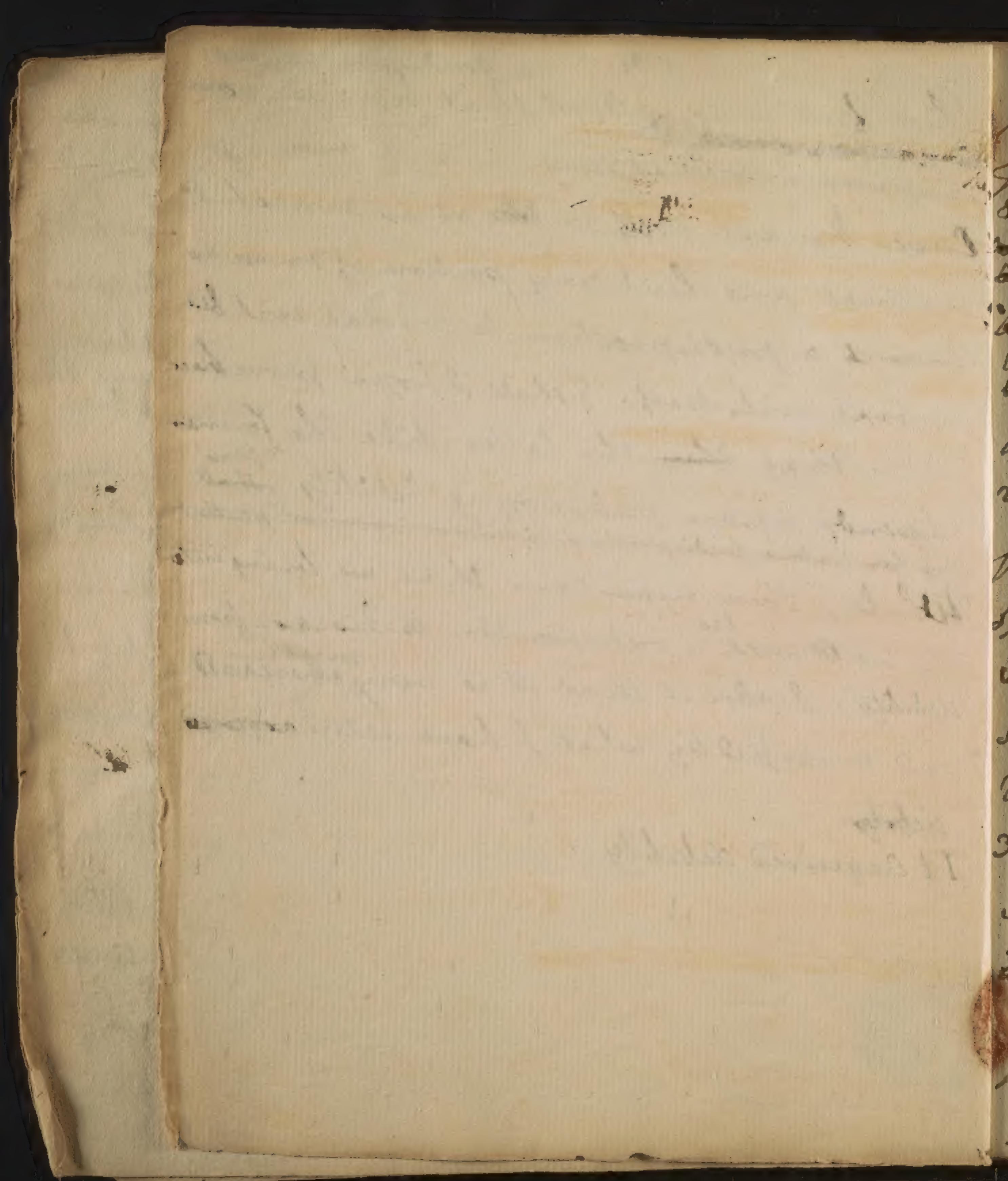
of native debility. We all bring into the world with us more or less of this original or innate weakness, and ~~will~~ ^{exists} it, a predisposition to disease. Sometimes this debility ~~does~~ ^{exists} in so ~~the~~ ^{the} womb to such a degree as to become a predisposition to disease even in the womb. Its effects have appeared there occasionally in the forms of Drowsy, Epilepsy, Convulsions, etc., Gall Stones, Jaundice, intermitting fevers, and suspended animation accounts of all which are to be met with in the works of medicine. They are usually brought on by the indolence, hard labor, penury, luxury, ill temper, amanments and accidents of mothers during pregnancy. But native debility more frequently occasions





14.

a predisposition to
these facts it is evident that disease, is often
~~caused and transmitted~~ and in many
cases disease itself is ~~as~~ as much the
natural and hereditary portion of man as
is ~~as~~ a predisposition to moral vice &
moral vice itself. I shall I hope now here-
after that ~~say~~ the latter, like the former
depends upon predisposing debility. ~~that~~
~~so hereditary predisposition to disease is great, patient.~~
While I thus maintain that we bring into
the world with ^{us} a predisposition to disease from
debility, I admit that it is ~~very~~ ^{much} increased
and modified by what I have called ~~original~~
~~debility~~
It acquired debility.



~~Debility~~
 This ~~is~~ acquired 1 in infancy & childhood
~~Debility is~~ ~~caused~~ ~~by the position~~
~~which~~
~~injuries received in parturition~~
~~which~~ ~~have a predisposition to disease from~~
~~debility.~~

2 By the custom of washing the tender
 flesh of new born infants with ardent
 spirits, wine, or soaps and waters all of
 which by this undue stimulus produce
 subsequent debility, and predisposition to
 disease.

3 By diet excessive in quantity, or of an
 unwholesome quality. Children are often
 troubled and fed ~~more than~~ beyond their
 capacity to digest what they take into
 their stomachs. hence the frequency of
 吐ing in them. It has been called

Vultures of various wholesome quality
are very common in humble life
in all countries.

very happily "infantile sensuality". This
 food is moreover rendered offensive ~~from~~
 and debilitating when taken from the
 breast by the intemperance, or ^{Papions} ~~of~~
 their mothers, and when of another kind,
 by the mixture of wine, Spices, or oily
 substances with it. The instances of
 debility arising from a deficiency of aliment, or
 4 By this ~~extreme~~ improper dress,
 such as tight Drawing ~~bands~~ ^{bands}, caps, stays
 garters, and other articles of clothing,
 5 By the improper Use of, ^{Opium,} Adict Spirits
 and other Cordials, to allay Diseases in the
 bowels, all of which by inducing debility,
 induce a predisposition to Disease. —
 6 By the premature application of the mind
 to ~~studies~~ ^{studies} of any kind, and parti-
 -cularly to such studies as are dispropor-
 -tioned

67

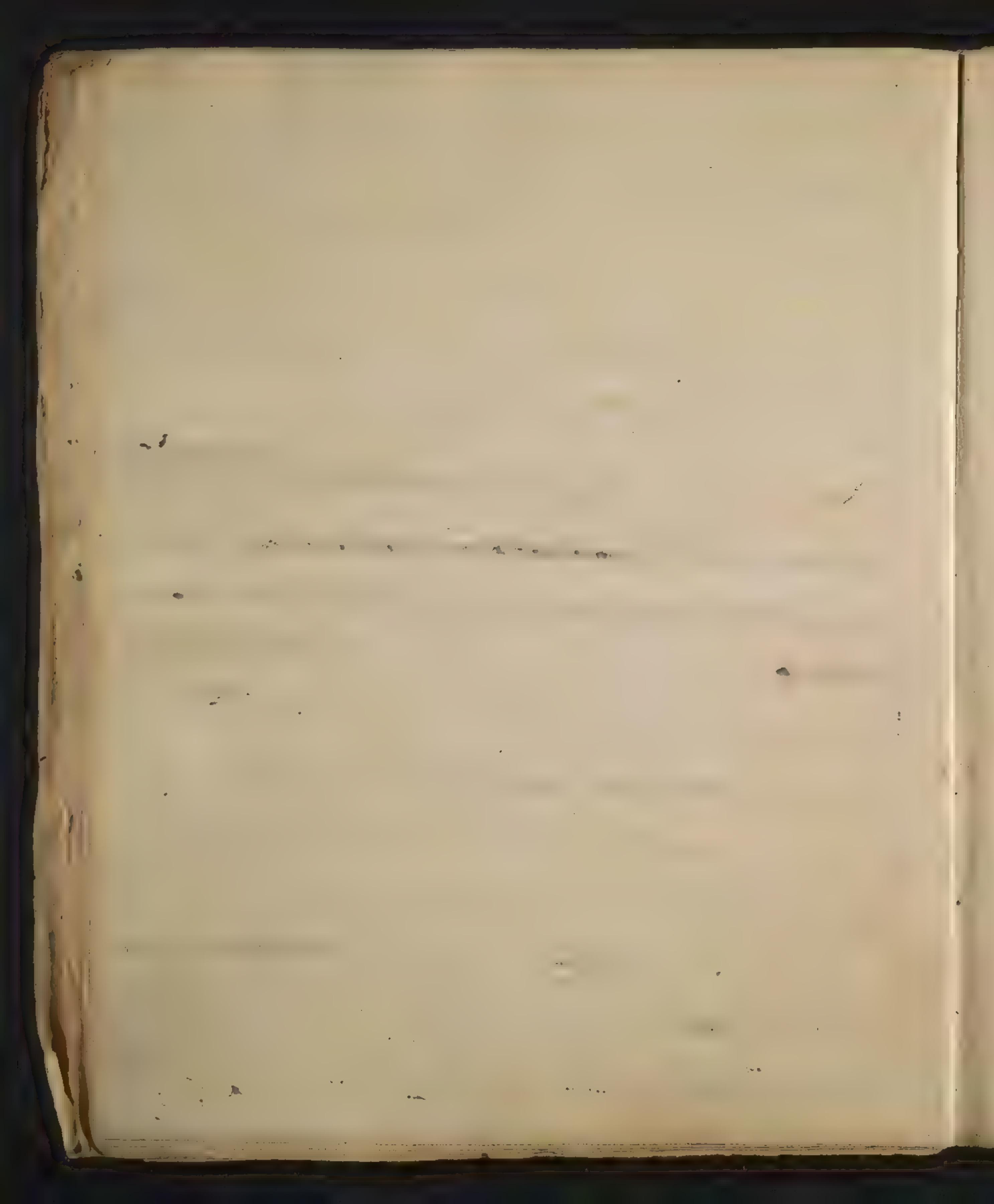
68

69

70

71

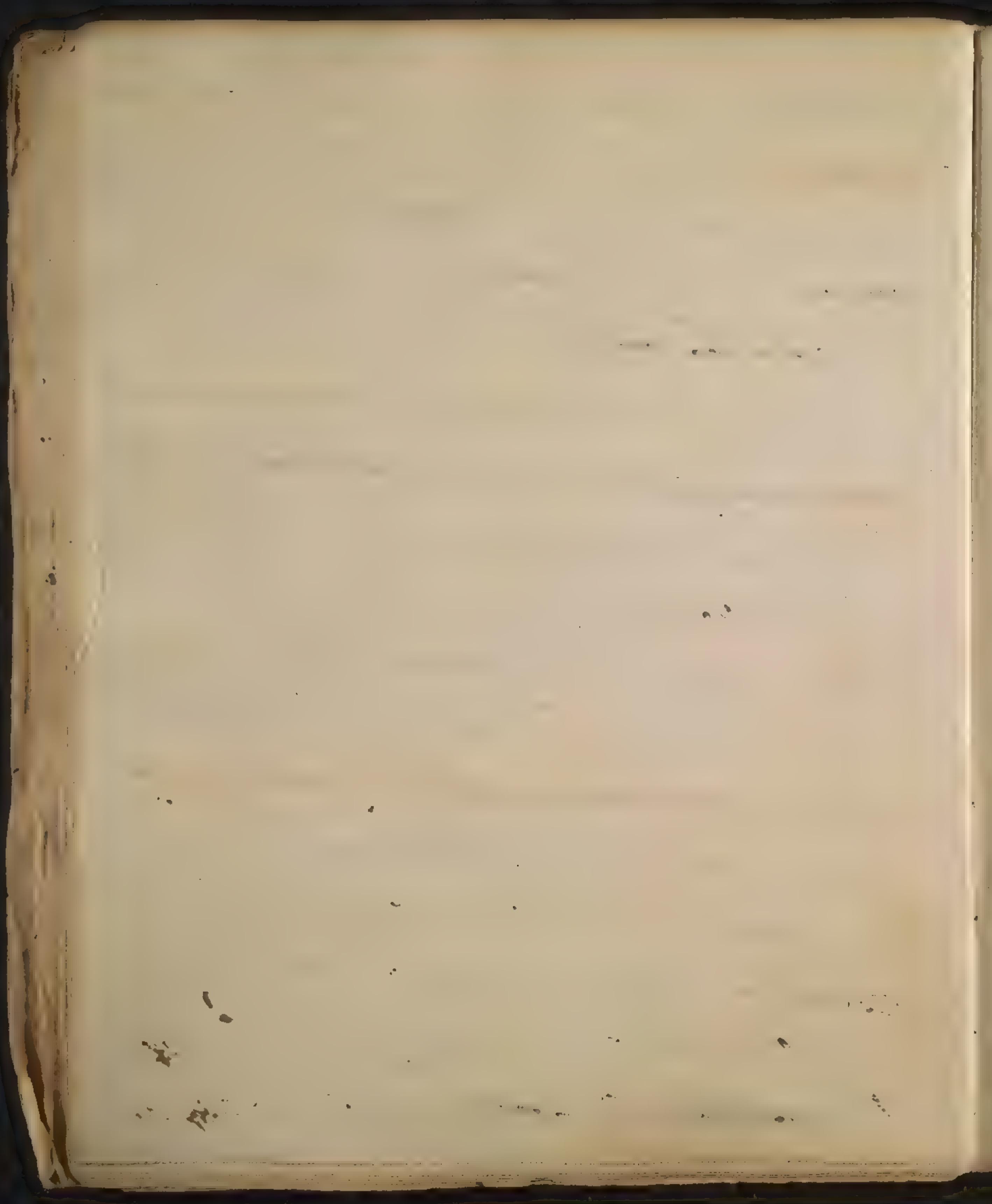
to the capacities of children, such as grammar and the higher branches of arithmetic. The injury done to the system by thus over distending the memory, is much increased by the confinement of children upon benches in close Schoolrooms for six or seven hours every day ~~and~~ ^{and largely} preventing that bodily exercise which is constantly required to lay a foundation for future agility and health. These ~~confined~~ close schoolrooms are rendered still more debilitating by the ~~confined~~ foul air generated & confined in them. To ~~the~~ causes of debility induced in Schools, I may add one more, that is, the despotism of



Schoolmastes which acts as a uniform sedative upon both mind and body. I have seen many instances of acute fevers from the former influence of foul air in Schools, and some ~~chooses~~^{instances of mortal} debility from the tyranny of Schoolmasters.

7 Debility is often induced by falls, other accidents to which infants & children are exposed. They are more often predisposed to disease from being ~~them~~ beaten, or pinched or improperly shaken by papioinate mothers or nurses. I have known an interval droopy of the brain brought on by the stroke of a brush handle upon a child laid by the hand of an angry mother.

8 By the amusements of Children. These, ~~bad to be by~~^{by} ~~and~~ their fatiguing



6

attend them, induce
exup, or by the accidents which often
~~hurt~~ debility in every part of the body,
and thus predispose to disease in every subse-
quent period of life. I had a Schoolmate
who was afflicted after he became a man
with a distressing ~~pain~~ ^{head aches} ~~debility~~
~~which~~ his physician ascribed to
his being often lifted from the ground when
a school boy, by the hair of his head. —

3^d Debility is acquired in ^{youth in} adult life ^{and}
in old age from a variety of causes, ^{all} which
~~old~~ ~~but mention particularly hereafter.~~
I shall pass over at present, and proceed
to remark that this debility whether
~~born~~ innate, or acquired in infancy
childhood, or in subsequent periods of
life is sometimes general, and affects

✓ on the contrary ~~they~~^{it} designation to the
state of the mind only, & hence the
origin of the word. - for the causes
which constituted the different
temperaments were supposed to
act specifically upon the temper.

7

every part of the body at the same time,
but it is more commonly partial, and
occupies but ~~less~~ a part, or parts of the
body. It has received the name of tem-
peraments of which there are said to
be four - viz - the ^{the bilious} ~~dangerous~~ - the melan-
cholic, ~~the bilious~~ and phlegmatic. They
were introduced into pathology by Galen
from whom they have been copied by
all ~~succeding~~ succeeding physicians. I object

to the ~~dangerous~~ temperament because it does not convey
any precise idea of the state of the body.
~~besides~~ of the idea of the state of the body.
2 I object to the term dangerous because
it places the predisposition ^{to disease} in the blood in-
stead of the blood vessels. I object 3^d to the
temperaments, because it places the predisposition

In order to understand the meaning & extent of
the term, ~~and~~, predisposition, you will
please to recollect that I said in our physiology
that our whole frame including body & mind
was a Unit, but that it was divided into a
number of different Systems, ^{each of} which sympathized
with itself, more than its neighbouring Systems.
The Task of these separate Systems I said further
~~I shall divide it.~~ ~~it~~

has distinct properties, and performed different
offices in the whole System. ^{I now add that} Each of them
~~is~~ is affected by causes both native, and
acquired that induce debility in it without af-
fecting any of the other Systems. A System when
thus debilitated, and rendered exible by its debility
labours under a predisposition to disease. The
Systems thus, predisposed to disease are the =

8

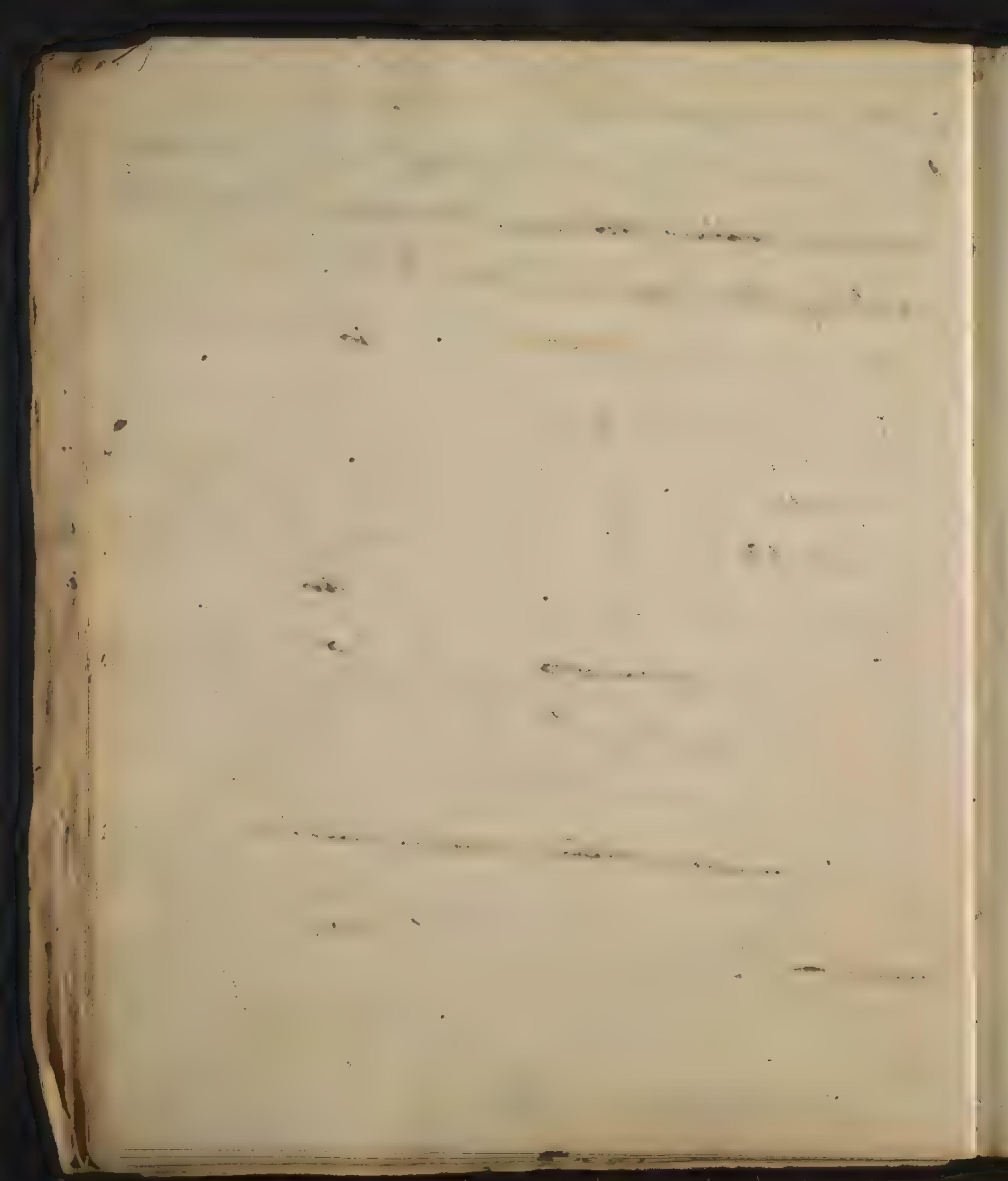
to disease in certain states of the bile instead
of the liver, and I object ^{to} to the terms
melancholy spleenetic because they
convey ideas of disease instead of ideas of
a predisposition to it.

~~hostile~~ Having rejected the term temper-
ament, permit me to substitute in
its room the plain and obvious term of
Predisposition, by which I mean ~~existing~~
~~considering an~~ ~~native~~ aptitude to disease
found in ~~existing~~ or ^{native} acquired debility,
and accompanied with preternatural excitability.
~~the predisposition~~
into 9 different ~~considering its position~~
~~different parts of the body~~ ~~are~~ obtained
the - bisatir - ^{the} nerves - ^{the} muscular - cephalic,
the phrenetic - ^{the} abdominal - lymphatic, and
~~the~~ ~~skin~~.
Cutaneous ~~the~~ skin or in other words
~~the~~ ~~skin~~ ~~and~~ ~~substituted~~ ~~the~~ ~~skin~~

IV From the ~~loss~~ exposure of the extremities
Sanguiferous vessels ^{in the lungs &c} which terminate upon the
Skin, from their frequent respiration and
inspiration, from their being so liable to be
stimulated, by or overcharged by obstructed
respiration, and from their great irrita-
bility which ~~would~~ exposes them to be
acted upon by innumerable ~~foreign~~ exha-
-lations which float in the air, they
are ~~of~~ more in a state of predisposition
to disease than any other of the systems.
The disease to which they are most liable
is fever, and hence ~~they~~ ^{the} fever, is the most
common of all diseases in most countries,
and where this is not the case, ^{the blood vessels} they are
seldom free of morbid action, where disease
invades ~~most~~ most of the other systems.

as it appears in the blood vessels - liver, nerves - muscles, brain, mind Lymphatic & skin. I shall briefly describe the predisposition to disease as it appears in each of the above systems.

This original predisposition may be subdivided into pulmonary - aortic - and uterine. I found this subdivision of actual debility in the existence of a specified predisposition to disease in the frequent occurrence of ~~an~~ ^{and} ~~in~~ ^{its} hemorrhages in the Aortic System without affecting the lungs or the womb, and in the existence of pulmonary con-
gestions ~~and~~ ^{de} ~~in~~ ^{the} ~~lungs~~ ^{or} ~~the~~ ^{uterus} ha-
emorrhages without being attended with ~~any~~ ^{any} signs ~~in~~ ^{of} the pulse, or with any sympathetic action in the aortic system. It has been said that the lungs are always prematurely large in



10

persons subject to the asthmatic predisposition to disease, in consequence of which they take in a preternatural quantity of air, and thus superoxidate the blood, and thereby produce that ~~dead~~ vibrability in the blood vessels which dispose them to disease from flight unusual or exciting causes.

2 In the hepatic predisposition the liver is said to be preternatural large, and from that circumstance to secrete a preternatural quantity of bile, which discovers itself by an aptitude to diarrhoea, nausea, colic, and when its excretion is prevented, to pain and swelling on the right side. This predisposition exists chiefly in hot climates and in warm weather in such as are temperate. — It discovers itself moreover ^{after} exercise, and the sudden action of

(621)

This viscous mucus may appear it has an exten-
sive sympathy in all its diseases with
the Stomach, the bowels, the Spleen, and they
~~bowel~~ are all connected by what Dr Johnson
calls intercommunication of sensation. This
is so much the case that is often difficult
to ascertain which of those viscera is
the seat of a disease, from the same
symptoms being common to them all.

11
the Stimulating Passions. However solitary &

3 The nervous predisposition is accompanied with an aptitude to be affected by slight impressions of a corporeal & mental nature. Persons who are afflicted with it are ~~susceptible~~ ^{subject} to the hysteria. They feel pleasure & pain in a quick succession, and hence they are often happy and miserable, half a dozen times a day. They are even unhappy from the ^{natural} absence of impressions, and hence such as are artificial, particularly ardent spirits & wine are often resorted ~~to~~ ^{to} as substitutes for them. Such persons may be said to be all nerve. The celebrated Dr Linnaeus laboured under this predisposition to disease, & it was the source of all the controversies & disgricitudes of his life, &

Among the idle, and luxurious part of
mankind, and are most frequent
in those States of Society in which long
habits of indolence or stimulating pleasures
have worn away, or expended the
excitability of the blood vessels upon
which both make their first impression.

throw a shade over his great intellectual endowments. hence his wife said of him "what would he not have been, but for his nerves?" — This, predisposition exists

4 The muscular predisposition is known by little sensibility, but great irritability in the muscular fibres. Persons who are affected with it are generally disposed to active employments. They are unable to remain long in one position, or even to sit long in company, but when restrained by a sense of decorum, their hands, their feet, or their heads are constantly in motion. — They walk with a quick step, — they ride in a Gallop — or drive their carriages at full speed. They are restless even in bed, and rise early in the morning. They

Rest is

V and here we find it more frequently
among children than adults, and among

~~blacks, than among white people.~~
~~the most common in~~
~~is the southern states. It is this race~~

13

painful to them, and they enjoy (if I may
be allowed the expression) repose only
insensibility. Such men may be said to be
absent. This predisposition is attended
with but little inititue, hence we find
Strength and Courage every where ascribed
to Hercules, but in an instance ^{while} of his
proseping ^{to} understanding; I have said this predisposition
is attended with but little possibility,
hence the negroes in the West Indies, who
are most subject to blaines & other mu-
-cular diseases ^{physical} ~~have~~ Operations ^{with}
much more fortitude than White people.
They even converse with calmness during
the amputation of a limb. It is from
this deficiency of sensibility in persons

V of the predisposition to the first of the disease, I have named I have met with & heard of several remarkable instances in some different families. One in this state in two in varying kind. In one of them four out of six children, & in the mother of out of 20 deceased children died of the dropsy of the brain & all of them about the 5th year of life. The aphatic predisposition was ~~so~~ innate in each of these families.

14

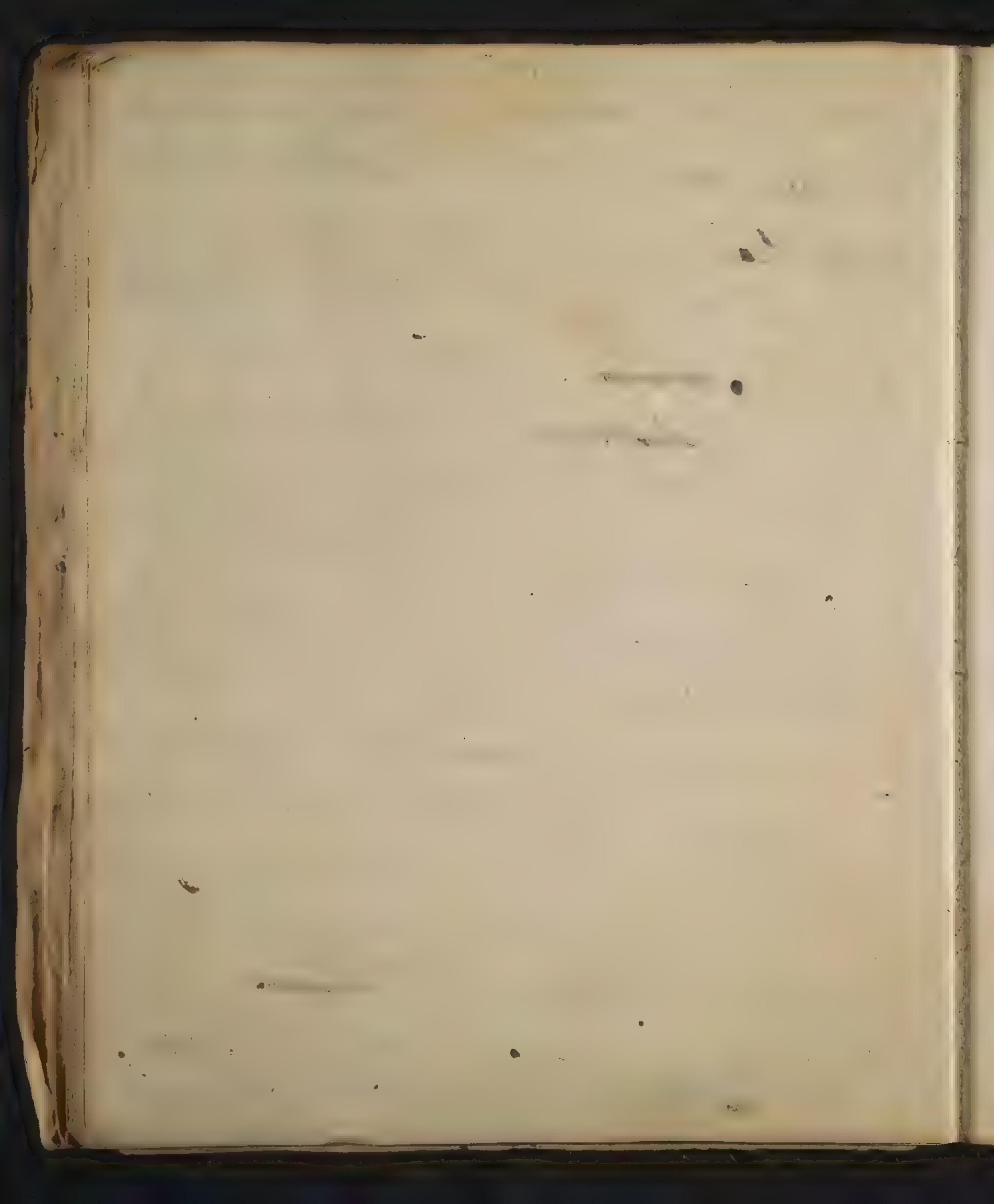
of strong and invisible muscles that they
under diseases
so often succumb ~~to~~ of which persons
of more visibility recover. The nerves
refuse to act as Antirails for them,
and hence they are often in the embraces
of death before they feel either sickness
or pain.

5 The Aphatic predisposition ^{is} ~~exists~~
~~distributed throughout the brain~~
~~especially in the cerebellum~~
~~but also in the pons and medulla oblongata~~
attended with an Asthenia ~~in~~ headache,
vertigo, palsy and apoplexy. It differs
from the 6th or Phrenetic ^{or} ~~predisposition~~
in occupying the interior and lower
Cerebrum & ^{also the} Dura mater
parts of the Cerebellum, while the
Phrenetic, according to Dr. Gaul occupies
exclusively the upper regions of the

✓ The slightest deviation from ordinary
habits induce them; and such is the per-
= disposition of the parts of the brain which
are the seats of those diseases, that they
burn for years and in some instances
during a long life, to absorb undue im-
pressions from every other part of the
body. Such persons may be said to
be all head. -

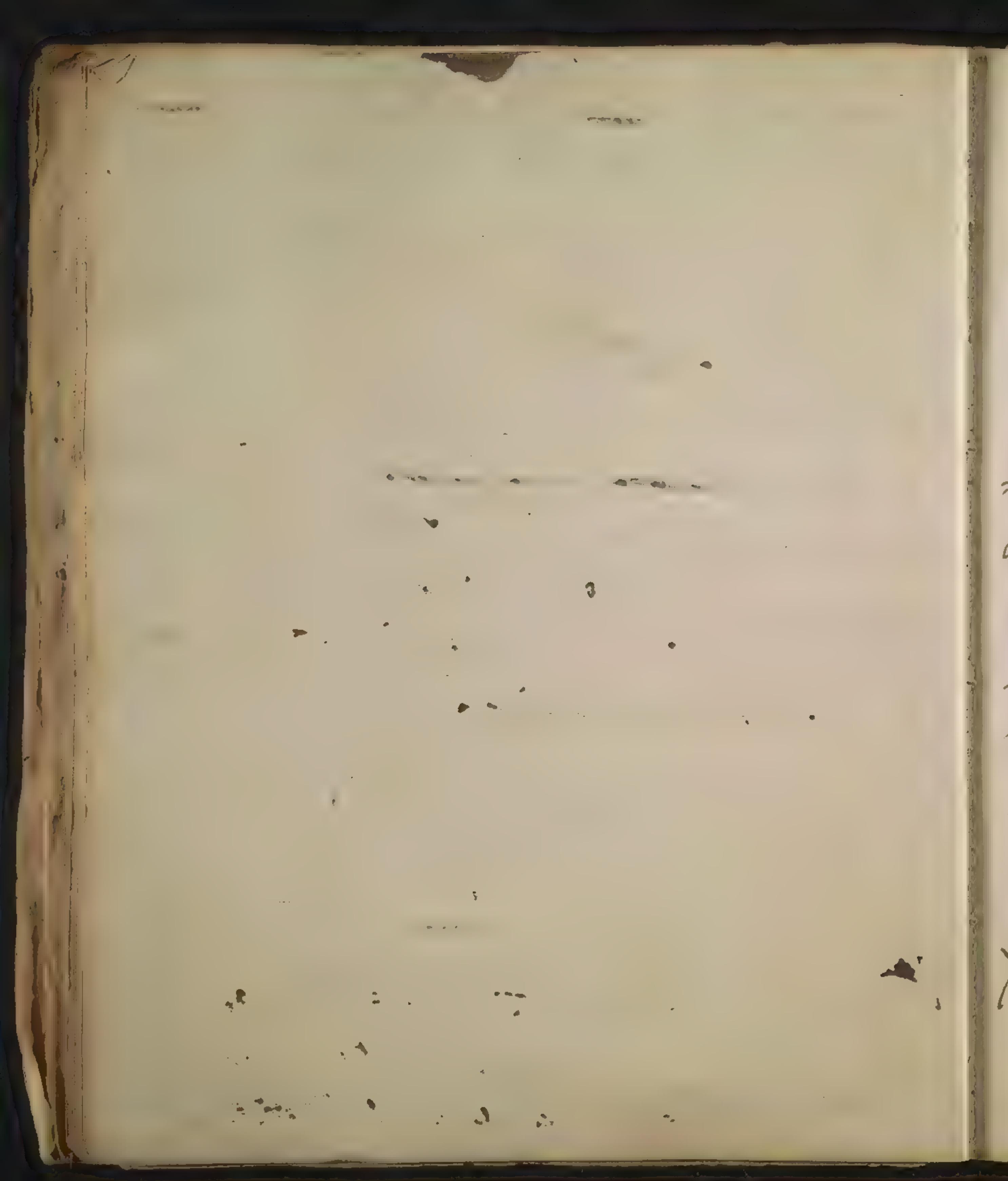
+ It appears in an aptitude to be delirious from
the slightest pain. This was the case of the
family of Chauvelin once attended in this
city by the name of Pissot. It was induced
in all of them, even by the gentle ch.
pneumonia, the inflammation of the small part by
inhalation.

which proprie^{ties} little or no sensibility.—
brain. It is certain many persons
are afflicted during their whole lives
with headache, vertigo, who never
discover the least symptom of alienation
of mind, ~~and~~^V It is equally true that many
persons ~~who~~ affected by headache
never complain of any previous
headache or other sensible disease
in the brain. The phrenetic disposition
frequently discovers itself in early life
by unconveni^{on} capacity to acquire
knowledge, and when this capacity is unduly
gratified, it often brings on a premature death,
or wears the mind down to a state which
I shall presently describe ^{V that} under
it unfit to acquire or retain knowledge.
It is ~~as~~ often accompanied with great



understanding ~~with~~[&] weak passions, or weak
or slender understanding and strong passions.

When it is connected with healthy nervous
blood vessels and ~~liver~~^a the system does
not often suffer from this predisposition,
but this is not the case, it seldom fails
to induce disease ~~and~~^{and after} - mental
disease. Dr. Swift very happily compares
persons with this phrenetic predisposition
to a sword which being too large for ~~the~~^{its}
scabbard, cuts the body through. As the
absence of natural sensations is painful
to the persons labouring under the nervous
predisposition, so the absence of mental
stimuli is painful to the persons who
possess the phrenetic predisposition. The
system languishes in them, under the
fickle stimulæ of their ordinary thoughts.



17

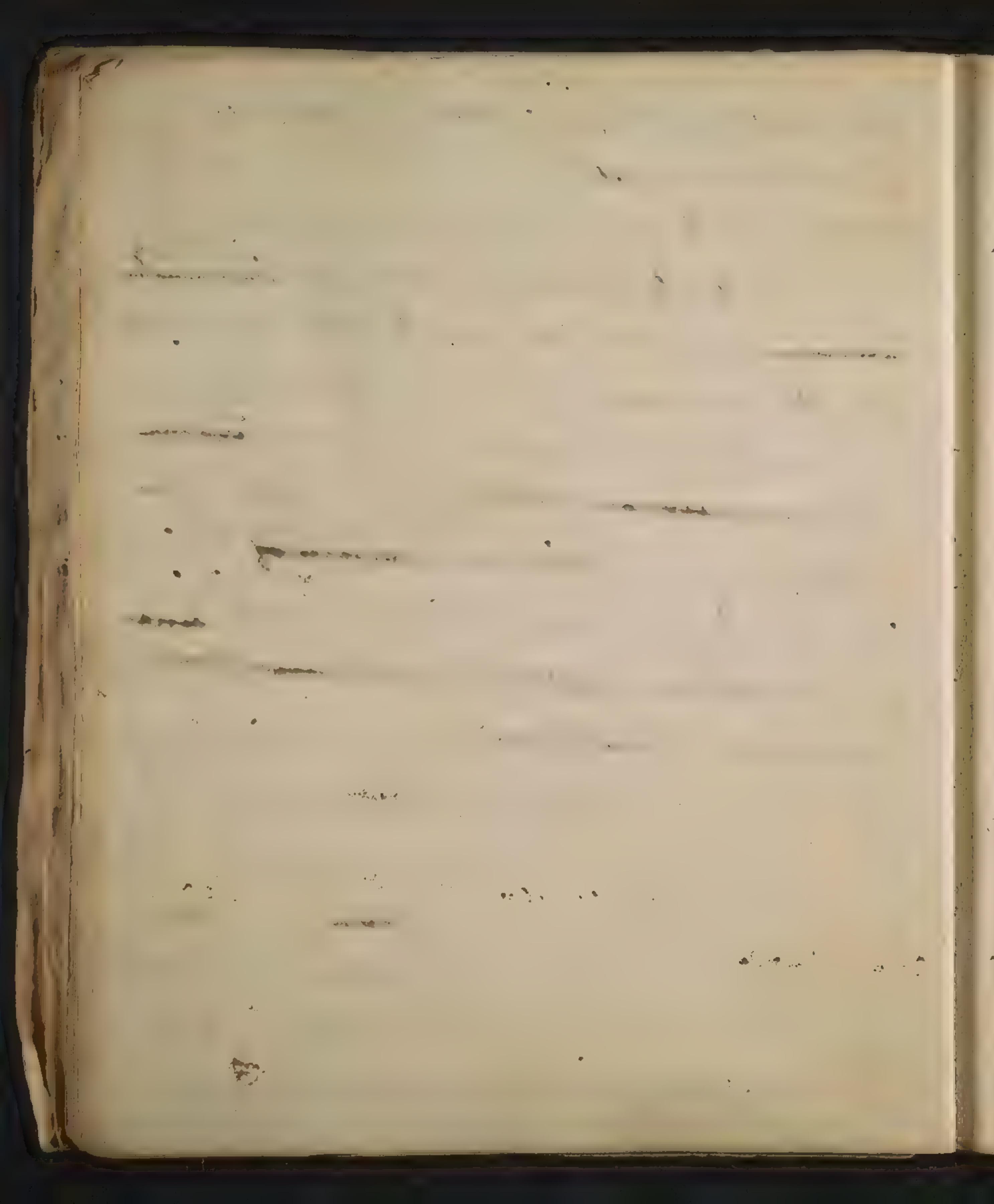
Unlike a watch whose spring is ^{internal} within its and invisible, they resemble a clock who which can move only from an external and visible ~~in~~^{impulsive} impulse. This impulse ~~is~~ is derived from constant exercise, labor, reading, writing, or conversation. By the abstraction of the whole or even a part of them, such persons have often passed suddenly into madness, or slowly into incurable fatuity. They may be said to be all mind, according as the predisposition was seated only in adjoining parts, or ^{only} in the mind. Such persons may be said to be all mind.

The abimetical predisposition may be subdivided into gastric & intestinal, for we often observe healthy bowels with an excitable stomach, & a healthy

✓ And sometimes we see it passing whole
families for several generations. I attended
a lady ^{in the} ^{of 1807} last summer ⁱⁿ N.Y. Robert ~~whose~~ a
lady whose mother & grand mother died of it -

18

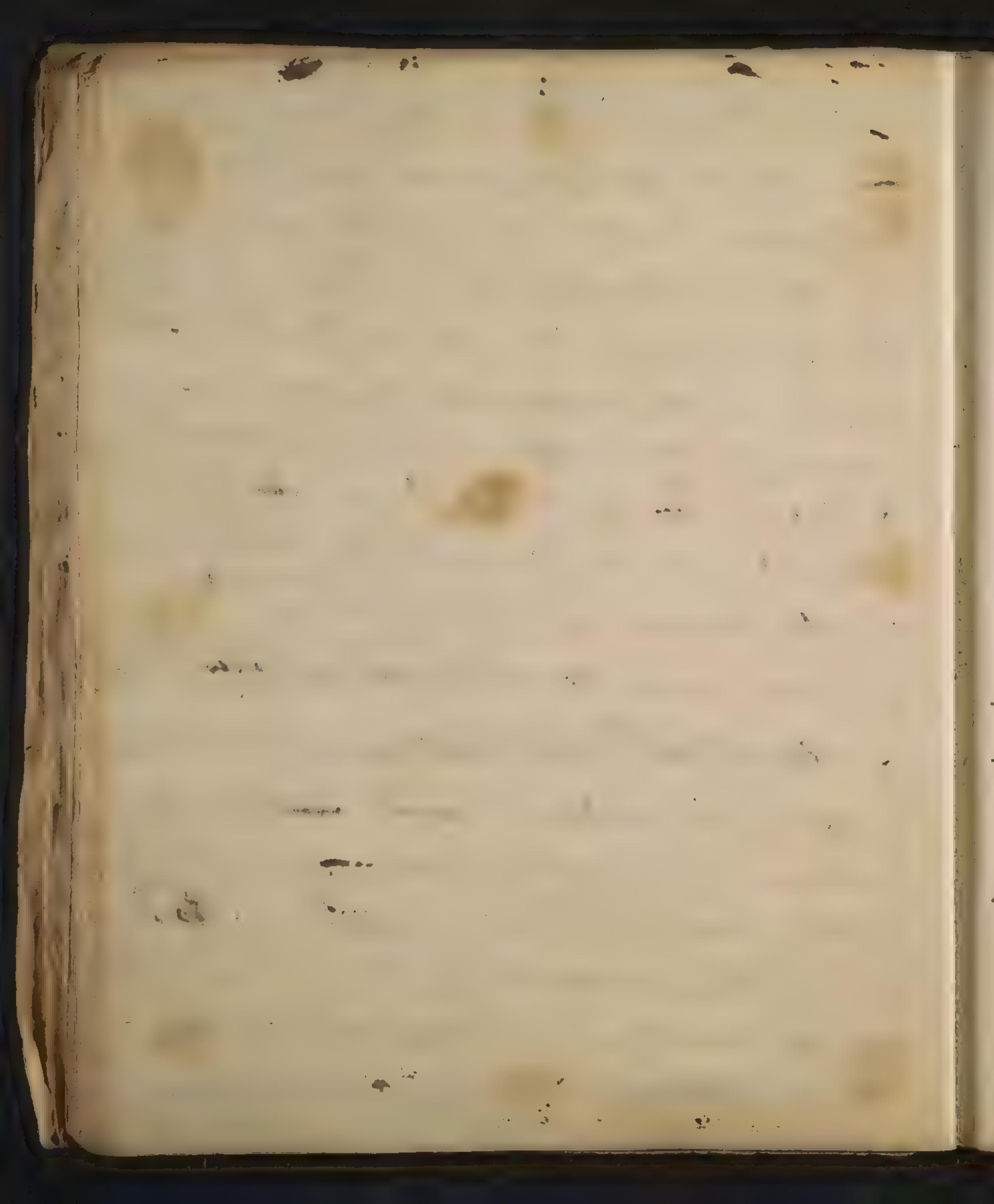
Stomach with exitable bowels. This predisposition is most common in infancy & childhood, but we sometimes meet with it in adult life, and such is the ~~sympathy~~^{excitability} between the Stomach and bowels in many people that the disease in those parts is induced by the lightest impressions. Such ~~most excitable~~ persons seem as if they were ~~wound up tight~~^{all stomach or bowels.} In the Lymphatic predisposition the bowels are said to be small, and the ~~but~~ thorax contracted and hence absorbers perform their office with undue celerity and force. They are moved by slight impressions, and hence the sudden and great ~~loss~~ absorption of liquids in some stomachs, and of the rapid & copious discharge of them by urine. The frequency of Diarrhoea in



14

moist countries probably arises from
the want of a due proportion between
the absorption of moisture from the air
by the lymphatics of the lungs, and
its discharge by the kidneys & skin. But
the activity of the lymphatic vessels appears most
obvious in the sudden and great absorption
of liquids ⁱⁿ by the stomach and its
rapid & copious discharge by the urine
in the disease called Diabetes ^{aqueous.} with
persons even to ~~excessive~~ ^{be a nap} of absorbent.

The ~~heat~~ ^{which} predisposition discover
itself in the facility in ~~sweat~~ redness,
itching, and eruptions take place from
~~and has difficulty with which he always go~~
fleble impressions upon the skin. To do
great is the exibility of the skin in some
people that the distant effluvia of the
Rhus radicans induces an insipidus



on every part of it while persons who are devoid of this predisposition are no way affected by it. Dr. Patterson has lately supposed the Atmosphere has some share in producing this predisposition at particular seasons and to this he ascribes most ^{occasional} ~~many~~ eruptions ~~seen~~ on the skin, but the greater facility with which the various and Vaccine diseases are communicated at some times than at others. The difficulty with which ^{external} wounds and sores heal in some people, and the facility relief which is given to many internal diseases by frictions and other applications to the skin probably depend upon ~~the~~ ^{its} greater morbid excitability or predisposition to disease. ~~In each person the skin seems to cause those ugly and fresh persons appear to be all skin.~~



system by the ordinary customs of civi-
lized life. Few men live without a
constant predisposition to disease from
native ~~ways~~ or acquired debility. This
remark is not originally mine. Jesus
long ago said. "Raro quisquam, non
aliquam partem inbecillam habet"

~~the Skin appears to be all skin. Great &~~

I have thus enumerated the principal
disease ~~feats~~ ^{general, and partial} of ~~a~~ ^{native} predisposition to
whatever - native - acquired or healthy.
In case, I shall even add a few general
remarks upon them.

1. ~~The same~~ ^{native or acquired} ~~one~~ or more of those predispositions exist in every person. Should a child be born with a perfect body and mind, that is, predisposed by weakness and excitability to no one disease, it would soon acquire a predisposition to it in some part of its system by the ordinary customs of civi-
-lized life. Few men live without a constant predisposition to disease from native ~~weak~~ or acquired debility. This remark is not originally mine. Jesus long ago said. "Raro quisquam, non aliquam partem inbecillam habet."

~~and dignified state of the
blood vessels of the uterus and ovaries -
but the whole system which are characteristic
of both local & general debility -~~
~~The disease of debility follows the debility
of a general organ + and a
sense of weakness and weariness is the
general precursor of the disease of
parturition -~~

34

Where is the person who passes a whole day with regular exertions as ^{to} time
and quantity, or without marks ⁱⁿ & ^{of} exp-
in some part of the body? or worse is
passes ~~long~~ or night undisturbed by vexations
or disagreeable Dreams? - now all
these ^{are} deviations from health, ^{and} the
effects of previous debility & excitability.
~~is soon past of the~~ In short - perfect
health is as rare, as perfect Virtue, or
perfect reason. Even the common degrees
of it which we enjoy are, like Animal
life, the effects of force. ~~too~~ ^{weak and} The
numerous ~~dangerous~~ ^{presumed} defenceless avenues
too expose to disease, are ~~kept~~ from it,
only by constant vigilance & care. ~~the~~
^{A part of the} ~~part of the~~ ^{progress} medicine is to direct

V 2. More than one of these predispositions exist at the same time in ^{different} the ~~same~~ systems. The tertial & hepatic predispositions are generally united in warm climates. - all diseases Poncini says are supposed to originate in Egypt from "blood" and "bile", that is, from the blood vessels & liver being always in a state ^{in which} ~~of excretion~~, they are believed to produce blood & bile in excess or of an unhealthy quality. The hepatic and alimentary predispositions often exist in the same person. The muscular & alimentary predispositions are very common in children. The nervous - muscular and cephalic predispositions exist in all those persons who are subject to Epilepsy. The cephalic and stomachic predispositions are often blended together - whence the name

this care to its proper objects. It shews
that the capacity of our propensions to be
formed in the original ^{material} ~~or~~ body.

mechanism of human ~~structure~~.
The building & -

3 The predispositions to disease vary in
different periods of life. ~~but among the~~
~~abdominal & cutaneous~~
~~muscular~~ predominate in
infancy & childhood - hence the ^{frequency} of
~~convulsions and bowel complaints~~
these stages of life. The arterial & hepatic
prevail in middle life & the excretaries and
neurorrhachenes - ~~4th~~ Cephalic in old age. But the predispositions
vary even in the different seasons of the
same year. The arterial predominates in
the Spring - the hepatic and abuminary &
in the Summer - the ^{cerebral &} excretaries in the Autumn &
= winter & the lymphatic in the Winter.
They are sometimes acquired by disease. E.g.: a
plague produces the pulmonary tertian - hence ^{the} name - falls etc.

Actions of the brain & stomach in inducing
these respective diseases. - The ^{nervous} Cephalic, and
Phrenetic predispositions sometimes occur
in the same persons - hence the frequent
~~co~~^{co} combination & suspicion of hysteria - Hypo-
condriasis - ~~headache~~ & mania to each
other, or their occasional combinations.

The nervous & arterial predisposition are
often combined in Hysteria. This is evident
from the relief which Bloodletting ~~affords~~^{& other deple-}
~~ting remedies~~ so frequently affords in that disease. -

V I have said the predispositions are shared
in successive generations. Of this I have observed
many instances. - The changes are
generally ~~exterior~~^{optious} points or
predispositions. Thus the phrenitis often
involves the nervous predisposition, and the
Cephalic, the phrenitis. There is a family
in this city in which the father was several
times deranged. None of his children have

5 The predispositions sometimes ^{exten-}
 unchanged descend
 through whole families, & descend to
 distant generations, but they are often
 mixed, changed, or lost by the intermar-
 riages of families with each other. ✓

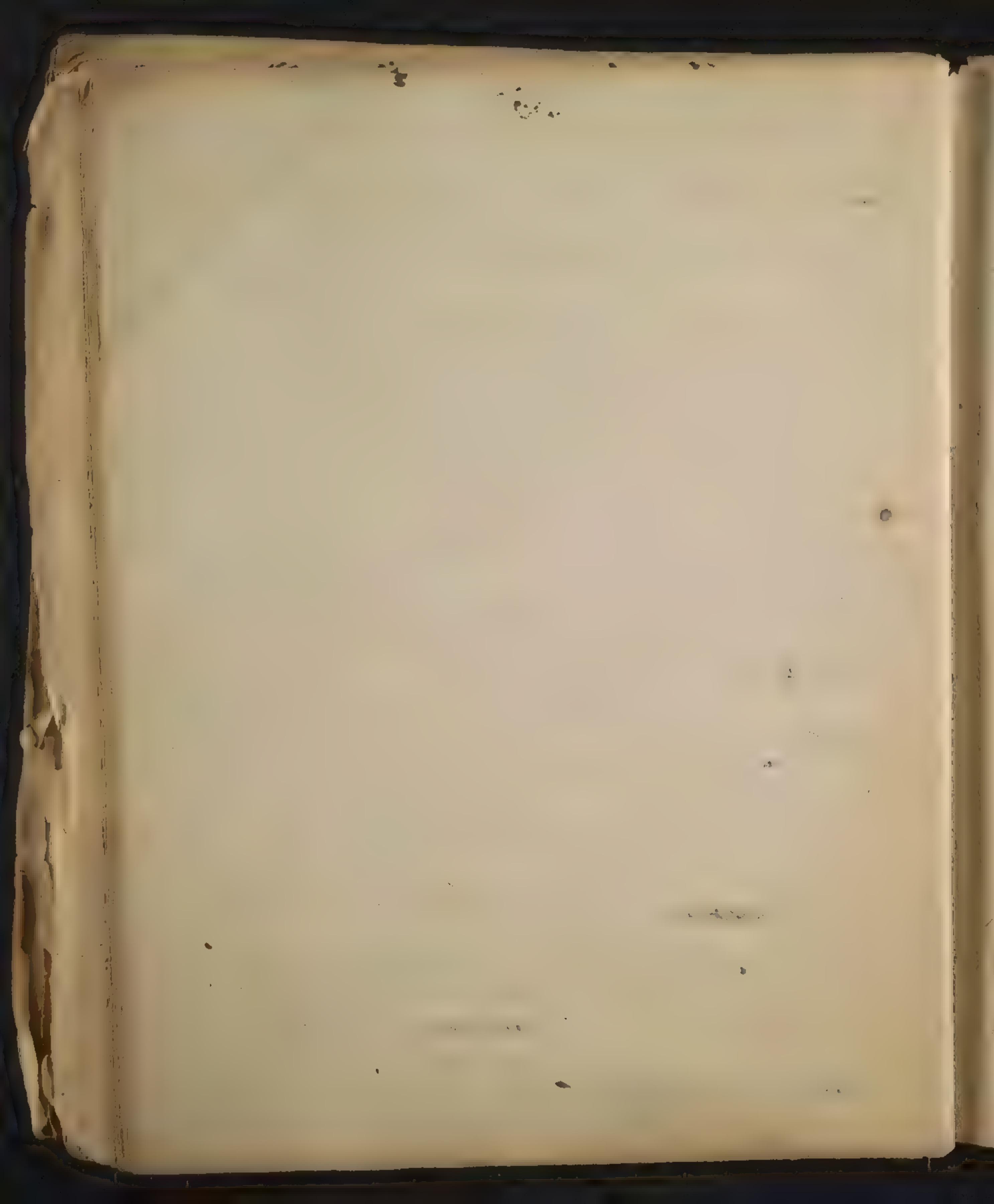
6 It has been remarked that certain
 diseases prevail exclusively in some nations,
 and in certain provinces of or sections
 of others. ^{They are} ~~This~~ induced by a uniformity
 of predisposition, ~~indeed this~~ and they
 disappear from those nations or provinces
 by the mixture of strangers with them
 from conquest or migration. It
 was because the ancient Greeks were
 so much isolated, and possessed such
 a sameness of predisposition that many
 of their diseases, and particularly that
 like ~~Ligras~~ and Crises of their fevers

— suited to his phrenitis predisposition,
but all of them have been affected with the
epilepsies, in consequence of which they
are all more or less affected ~~with~~^{with} epilepsy
~~and~~^{with} hard air. I have known
mania in like manner to appear in one generation
and to be followed by moral derangement in the succeeding
one. V predispositions upon the mind that
they acquired the name of tempera-
-ments, or causes which acted
upon the temper.

37

are characterized by a uniformity that
less is seldom seen in modern countries.
hence many of the opinions & predictions
of Hippocrates are contradicted by the
observations of physicians who practise
in countries inhabited by a mixture of
nations. —

If the Variety in the human mind,
character depends very much upon the difference
of predisposition to disease in different
people, and the changes which take
place may be derived from the changes
in these predispositions from sickness,
and the other successive stages in life. The
predispositions which thus are influenced
are rated chiefly in the blood vessels
the human mind ~~consists~~ ^{is} the animal,
the liver - the nerves - and the brain.
~~especially~~
It was from the influence of these



35

If a predisposition to disease, or weakness in one part is often attended with prerenatal strength, or an insusceptibility to disease in other parts of the body. Here we see weak nerves and vibratile blood vessels with sound and vigorous muscles, and active or strong lymphatics with weak nerves. The latter fact is obvious in the rapid absorption and discharge of water in hysterical & hypochondriacal patients. ^{It is the} ~~superior~~ ^{immense} effect of prerenatal force in the lymphatic vessels.

From those remarks you must perceive how necessary it is to study the different predispositions in investigating the causes, and prescribing for the cure of diseases. — The same remote causes

Chronic

✓ It explains the reason why that ^{chronic} morbid affection ~~is commonly~~ ^{already} supposed to be a specific disease, - called Gout - affects different people, in so many different ways - according to the parts of the body, which are the seats of predisposition. But we now others meet with exceptions to this remark. A Sameness of Occupation sometimes produces - a Sameness of predisposition in numerous classes of people, and even a Sameness of disease. Of this Sir John Pringle mentions a remarkable instance. He says the Dysentry among soldiers is the same in all countries and in all seasons. Dr. Hume ^{reps.} concurs in this remark. Now this must be owing to the sameness of the diet, ^{reps.} and labors of soldiers in all ~~countries~~ ^{parts} of the world.

38

act very differently upon persons according according to their native or acquired predispositions. Dr Daigremont illustrates this, by a very opposite fact. Four young men of the same age overheated themselves at school, on the same Spring day, and with the same degree of the same kind of exercise. They ~~were~~ all ^{sickened} ~~to~~ indisposed soon afterwards, but each one with a different disease, according to his predisposition. This variety of predisposition explains the reason why the same epidemic so often appears with such different symptoms under every possible circumstance of equality. It explains the cause likewise why the same ~~ditto~~ medicines and diet produce such different and opposite effects in diseases, which all other circumstances

